

bluebus

Bluebus range of electric buses obtains “Origine France Garantie” label

Bureau Veritas awarded the Origine France Garantie label to Bluebus, a subsidiary of Bolloré Group, for its 6- and 12-metre electric buses. Manufactured in Brittany, near Quimper, Bluebuses are equipped with one-of-a-kind technology: Lithium Metal Polymer (LMP®) batteries, which also sport the Origine France Garantie label.

The Bluebus is produced by Bolloré Group and was sold for the first time in 2011, in its **6-metre** version. Perfectly adapted to urban areas, this bus has since won over several local authorities thanks to its design, technology and stellar performance.

Following a call for tenders launched by RATP and Ile-de-France Mobilités in 2014, Bluebus developed a 12-metre electric bus, which was produced at the Bluebus factory and inaugurated in January 2016 in the presence of Emmanuel Macron, then Minister for the Economy, Industry, and Digital Affairs. Fitted with eight LMP® batteries, the bus was launched in May 2016 for the inauguration of the first line of standard electric buses on the RATP network in Paris.

Bluebus is the first electric-bus manufacturer to have 50 12-metre vehicles in circulation in France. It is currently in use in Paris, on line 341, and will soon be deployed on RATP lines 115 and 126. Bluebus also won a call for tenders put out by the Brussels Intercommunal Transport Company (STIB) in October 2017. The Belgian capital will start with an initial fleet of five Bluebuses, which will be delivered in 2018.

Built at Bluebus' ISO 9001-certified factory in Quimper, Bolloré Group's 6- and 12-metre buses are fitted with LMP® batteries, a unique technology designed and built by Blue Solutions, a Bolloré Group subsidiary. **Entirely solid and made up of only French cells**, this battery contains **no solvents, rare earths or cobalt**, which makes it very safe. LMP® technology makes it possible to put the batteries on the roof. The bus floor can therefore be flat and lower down, meaning easier access for people with reduced mobility.

“Obtaining the Origine France Garantie label is a testament to our expertise when it comes to building electric buses. It's the first step in the creation of a battery and electric-bus industry in France,” says Marie Bolloré, CEO of Blue Solutions. “Today, several towns and large cities trust our range of buses and the technology on board. We hope to continue our efforts by developing a high-performance solution in response to the need to shift away from combustion vehicles, which has become a priority worldwide.”

With more than 200 electric Bluebuses in circulation around the world, the company plans to continue rolling them out in order to respond to the needs of cities. As part of an innovation partnership with Rennes Métropole, Bolloré Group will deliver seven 12-metre buses to Kéolis Rennes and is developing an articulated 18-metre bus.

About Blue Solutions:

Publicly traded since October 30, 2013, Blue Solutions is the company that manages the electrical storage operations developed by the Bolloré group. By diversifying its historical business of producing paper and ultrathin plastic film, the Bolloré group has become a producer of complete electrical components for capacitors, and now holds over one-third of the global market. With this expertise and 20 years of R&D, the group has engineered electrical storage solutions and batteries that rely on a unique technology, the LMP® (Lithium Metal Polymer) battery as well as supercapacitor technology. The batteries are employed both in mobile applications (electric vehicles) as well as stationary ones (storing electricity for individuals, businesses, local governments, etc.) developed and sold by other group entities through Blue Applications, which since 2011 has been rapidly growing on every continent.

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by Bolloré